



210 E Main St, Cortez, CO 81321 | 970-564-1195 | www.pinonproject.org

The Piñon Project



The Piñon Project Family Resource Center provides comprehensive, evidence-based family, youth and early childhood programs as well as emergency services. The Piñon Project serves over 3,000 high-risk Colorado children and families in Montezuma and Dolores Counties each year.

Piñon Project advocates work with families in a strength-based way, acting as coaches and system navigators to support families as they set and meet their own goals. This Strengthening Families approach works to increase Protective Factors - the strengths and resources that families draw on when life gets difficult. Research has shown that these 5 Protective Factors - Parental Resilience, Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development, Social and Emotional Competence of Children, Social Connections, and Concrete Support in Times of Need - increase family stability, enhance child development and reduce child abuse and neglect.

Our focus at The Piñon Project continues to be impacting poverty in our community and influencing behaviors that will lead to building and increasing personal resources for those living in poverty, essentially increasing their ability to be resilient and empowering them to take charge of their own. We strive to provide tools that offset the increased risk caused by the effects of poverty on the family; such as lack of housing and self-sustainability, negative impacts on health, education, achievement and increased stress and negative behaviors, and aim to increase community well-being and health. Poverty reduction and the resulting increased self-sufficiency is infused throughout multiple programs including the Successful Families Program, Early Childhood Education and Parenting, Mentoring, Community Response Program, Access to Health and Emergency Assistance.



Highlights

In July, 2017, The Piñon Project relocated to a new building previously owned by the City of Cortez. We were able to bring together all program staff under one roof and provide a centrally located, easily accessible center for our community. This move has allowed The Piñon Project to focus on expanding youth services, as well as increasing our capacity to service the individuals and families in Montezuma and Dolores Counties in a more comprehensive way. The Piñon Project is heavily invested in a community impact collaborative called Team UP, a cradle to career initiative currently focused on 1. Every child enters school ready to learn; 2. All children live in a safe and supportive environment; and 3. All children have access to primary and mental health services. It is our hope that, due to the work of this initiative, The Piñon Project will be able to expand and enhance prevention and supportive services for community families.



A client's children had been taken away due to violence in the home. She had been in and out of the hospital due to the violence. She came to The Piñon Project to get things back on track and get her children back. She wanted to start with Medicaid and food assistance. She was very down when she came into the office and would not make eye contact. I was able to get her signed up for Medicaid and food assistance online. Before she left she turned to me and said "It's people like you who give me hope that this will be okay, so thank you for all that you do. You are so valuable to our community."



How You Can Help

In an effort to best serve our community, The Piñon Project would benefit from unrestricted donations and engaged volunteers and board members.

